

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 00769 031016Z

17

ACTION OPIC-06

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R 021548Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3552

INFO USDOC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NKIDDA 0769

FOR OPIC-ELLA E. VICK

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, BTIO, SA

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR POLITICAL RISK INVESTMENT INSURANCE

PEPPER CONSTRUCTION CO., INT'L.-SAUDI ARABIA 273-76-143

1. EMBASSY WILL NOT OBJECT TO REFERENCED APPLICATION. KING FAISAL HOSPITAL IS INTENDED AS SHOWCASE OF MIDDLE EAST AND HAS HIGH PRIORITY WITH SAUDI GOVERNMENT. OPIC SHOULD BE AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT AT LEAST ONE FOREIGN CONTRACTOR FAILED TO COMPLETE WORK ON THE PROJECT, ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE OF INTERFERENCE FROM HOSPITAL GENERAL MANAGER. HOSPITAL CORPORATION OF AMERICA HAS ALSO HAD CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES OPERATING WITH HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE WIDESPREAD RUMORS OF CORRUPTION IN ADMINISTRATION OF HOSPITAL, FREQUENT COMPLAINTS OF IMPROPER LABOR MANAGEMENT (OF AMERICAN EMPLOYEES) AND A GOOD DEAL OF CRITICISM OF HOSPITAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.

2. OPIC MIGHT BE WELL ADVISED TO INQUIRE DISCREETLY WHETHER PEPPER IS FULLY INFORMED ABOUT POSSIBLE PITFALLS. EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED TO BRIEF REPRESENTATIVE OF FIRM.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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